

Listing of the Claims

Claims 1-16. (Canceled)

17. (previously presented) A method of using a tamponade in an ophthalmic surgical procedure comprising:

creating an incision into a posterior chamber of an eye; and

filling said posterior chamber of the eye with said tamponade consisting essentially of a silicone oil that was purified by supercritical carbon dioxide extraction to remove cyclic and oligomeric impurities.

18. (previously presented) The process of claim 17 wherein said extraction is conducted at a pressure of approximately 3000 psi, and a temperature of approximately 55 degrees Celsius.

19. (previously presented) The process of claim 17 wherein said extraction is conducted at a carbon dioxide flow rate of approximately 20 to 26 gm/minute and a flow time of approximately 90 minutes.

20. (previously presented) A method of using a tamponade in an ophthalmic surgical procedure comprising:

creating an incision into a posterior chamber of an eye; and

filling said posterior chamber of the eye with said tamponade consisting essentially of a silicone oil that was purified with a mixture comprising carbon dioxide under supercritical extraction conditions to remove cyclic and oligomeric impurities.

21. (previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said extraction is conducted at a pressure of approximately 3000 psi, and a temperature of approximately 55 degrees Celsius.

22. (previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said extraction is conducted at a carbon dioxide mixture flow rate of approximately 20 to 26 gm/minute and a flow time of approximately 90 minutes.

23. (previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises approximately 90 percent carbon dioxide and approximately 10 percent acetone.

24. (previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises carbon dioxide and a modifier.

25. (previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises carbon dioxide and acetone or acetonitrile.

26. (previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises carbon dioxide and methanol.

27. (previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises carbon dioxide and isopropanol.

28. (previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises approximately 90 percent carbon dioxide and approximately 10 percent methanol.

29. (previously presented) The process of claim 20 wherein said carbon dioxide mixture comprises approximately 90 percent carbon dioxide and approximately 10 percent isopropanol.

Claims 30. – 33. (canceled)